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it; let her now eat the sour and disagreeable bread.

Moreover, if England is our "mother country," should she not set her daughter an example of good feeling? But the hypocrite far from effecting peace, is constantly, and has always been, stirring other nations against each other.

She has driven nearly all of the generous Irish race from the land of their fathers, and I am of the opinion that some day she shall meet with her ruin at the hands of the Irish immigrants' descendants. Yes, England's cup is full and perhaps the day is not far at hand when some traveller from New Zealand shall stand on London Bridge and sketch the ruins of St. Paul's.

But if you are so anxious to effect good feeling with the "mother," I had almost said "step-mother" country, you had better begin a reformation in England itself. Tell your English cousins, we Americans, made up almost entirely of Irish, German, Italian, Negro, etc. blood can take care of ourselves.

I have observed that all the leading men of your association bear Anglo-Saxon names; this already would show why you so imploringly beg us to love our good (?) mother England; this alone proves you to be Anglo-maniacs and will certainly not infuse faith into the heart of an Irishman.

But by they way, I read to-day of an account, wherein it is proved that the sailors who had won Nelson's battles were mostly Americans of Paul Jones' fleet; the poor fellows had been captured and treated most ignominiously, and King George himself agreed to have them made tars on his men-of-war, and the poor fellows induced, or rather impelled by circumstances, had to save their lives by winning our mother(?)-country's battles.

In conclusion I advise you poor Anglo-maniacs to return to your mama England, and cease with your sickening talk of good feeling between America and the "mother-country." Trusting you will listen to my advice, I remain,

Yours truly,

AN AMERICAN BOY.

### EDITORIAL NOTES.

The citations which we give in this number of the *ADVOCATE* from various papers, are fairly representative of the opinion of both the religious and the general press on the Senate's action in rejecting the arbitration treaty, or in making it only a fit object of rejection. It is true that many papers expressed little regret at the rejection of the treaty in the form in which it was finally voted on, but the course of the Senate in emasculating and finally rejecting it was as a whole almost universally condemned. We could have multiplied these citations by the score, and the language would everywhere have been essentially the same. One thing was noteworthy in the treatment of the subject by the papers, and that was that arbitration is considered by them to be stronger than ever before, and that there is much less danger to-day of an outbreak of war between this country and Great Britain than was the case even a few months ago.

Secretary Sherman has formally notified the British government, through Sir Julian Pauncefote, of the fail-

ure of the Senate to ratify the arbitration treaty. The Secretary had no official knowledge of the reasons for the rejection of the treaty and so could give Sir Julian none. The latter doubtless knows more than he wants to know about the Senate's feelings, and was probably quite content to receive nothing more than the official announcement of the rejection of the convention on which he had spent so much time and patient effort. How these two distinguished men, Sherman and Pauncefote, both of whom favored the treaty, must feel in communicating with each other about the subject, over the miserable fiasco of the Senate, which becomes the more disgusting the more points of view it is regarded from!

Ex-Secretary of State, John W. Foster, has been sent by the President to Great Britain, Russia and Japan with practically full powers to negotiate and sign treaties for the better protection and preservation of the seals in Behring Sea. Hope is entertained that he may be able to induce Lord Salisbury to arrange a *modus vivendi* by which all pelagic sealing may be prevented during this season. The patrolling of the sea by English and American ships within the specified distance from the Pribyloff islands has proved ineffectual in stopping the extermination of the seals, so long as pelagic sealing beyond these limits goes on. The four nations interested ought certainly to be willing and able to come to an agreement by which all their interests in the seal industry may be preserved. Mr. Foster is the wisest and most experienced of all our diplomats and will be able certainly to do all that can be done in the matter entrusted to him. He goes first to Great Britain to consider the subject with the Prime Minister. Thence he will go to St. Petersburg and afterwards to Japan. The mission is an extended one and will take many months for its accomplishment.

President McKinley's Cuban policy is substantially the same as was that of President Cleveland. The Senatorial jingoes are already showing their dislike of the "un-Americanism" of "that splendid gentleman" in the presidential chair. But they are certain not to force his hand even by passing Senator Morgan's belligerent resolution. Learning officially of the suffering and destitution of American citizens in Cuba Mr. McKinley sent to Congress on May 17th the following entirely unsensational but in every way sensible message:

"To the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States:

Official information from our consuls in Cuba establishes the fact that a large number of American citizens in the island are in a state of destitution, suffering for want of food and medicines. This applies particularly to the rural districts of the central and eastern parts.

The agricultural classes have been forced from their farms into the nearest towns, where they are without work or money.

The local authorities of the several towns, however kindly disposed, are unable to relieve the needs of their own people, and are altogether powerless to help our own citizens.

The latest report of Consul-General Lee estimates 600 to 800 are without means of support. I have assured him that provision would be made at once to relieve them.

To that end, I recommend that Congress make an appropriation of not less than \$50,000, to be immediately available for use under the direction of the Secretary of State.

It is desirable that a part of the sum which may be appropriated by Congress should, in the discretion of the Secretary of State, also be used for the transportation of American citizens desiring to return to the United States who are without means to do so."

Within eighteen minutes after the message was received the Senate had voted the appropriation asked for by the President, and the House afterwards concurred.

It is understood that the President will not proceed any further until he receives official information from Mr. Calhoun who is making special observation for him of the condition of things in Cuba.

Things in the island of Cuba are in a most deplorable state. Not only are American citizens on the verge of death by starvation, but many of the Cubans themselves are reduced to utter destitution. There seems no immediate prospect of a change for the better. The information received at Washington shows very clearly that Spain has a long task before her, if she ever succeeds in putting down the insurrection. The Cuban cause seems as strong to-day as ever. In the recent engagements the Spaniards have had none the better of the fighting, but rather the worse. The pacified (according to Weyler) portions of the island are alive with insurgents to the number of possibly thirty or forty thousand well armed men. Filibustering expeditions continue to land men and supplies in spite of all the efforts of Spain and of the United States government to prevent them.

The most sensational thing about the sensational discussion in the Senate on Senator Morgan's Cuban resolution was the disclosure by Senator Foraker on the 19th ult. of the fact that more than a year ago the United States had tendered its good offices to mediate between Spain and Cuba, and that the offer had been rejected by Spain. He read the letter which Mr. Olney had addressed on the 17th of April 1896 to the Spanish Minister at Washington, offering mediation in a way consistent with the honor, dignity, and continued sovereignty of the Spanish government in Cuba. To this offer the Spanish Minister had replied that "there was no effectual way to pacify the Cubans, except upon the condition that they first submit to the mother country." The extracts of Mr. Olney's letter given in the dispatches show

that it was an extremely able treatment of the circumstances which led to the offer of mediation, and that its spirit was entirely free from sentimental threatening, though the hint was plainly given that the United States might be compelled to intervene rather than see another ten years of Cuban insurrection.

Ex-Senator Edmunds, in response to a request for his opinion in the matter, has given his reasons for thinking the action of the Senate in passing the Morgan resolution unjustifiable. They are as follows:

"I am free to say that I do not think the Senate was justified in taking such action at this time. When there was war between the North and South in this country the Washington government protested strongly against the recognition of the confederacy by foreign powers. England and France heeded the protest for some time, but eventually belligerency was acknowledged.

"At the time of the protest against such recognition there was in the South a regularly organized movement. Its civil branch was an important one, and its seat of government was known the world over. Yet despite these facts the United States protested strongly, and afterward made England pay for the damage done by cruisers fitted out in her ports.

"As far as my information goes Cuba has not reached such a stage as was reached by the Southern States. She is still an integral part of Spain. The Cuban cause is represented primarily by the military powers, and I repeat that there seems to me no excuse at the present time for the action of the Senate. The idea is held by some that after the recognition of belligerency Cuba could fit out vessels of war in ports of the United States that might prey upon Spanish merchantmen, and fight Spanish cruisers. This idea is erroneous. The moment the United States granted recognition of belligerency, she would also assume a position of strict neutrality."

One of the first effects of the passing of the Morgan resolution was a free fight in the lobbies of the Spanish Senate. During a heated debate in the Senate the Duke of Tetuan, minister for foreign affairs, charged that a speech of Senor Sagasta to the Liberals a few days before had contributed to bring about the vote in the United States Senate. Thereupon the government was charged with feebleness and cowardice. The minister of foreign affairs declared that he would accept dictation from nobody. Then he and Senator Comas, a Liberal and a professor in the University of Madrid, fell to boxing each other's ears and a general scramble ensued. As a result the minister of foreign affairs has resigned and the Liberal members of the Senate have refused to attend any more sessions until satisfaction is given them by the Duke of Tetuan. Like tends to produce like, and if the Morgan resolution does not lead to fighting on a larger scale we shall have to thank the better stars under which President McKinley and Speaker Reed were born.

The permanent committee on international arbitration

appointed at the Conference held in Washington in April, 1896, of which Mr. William E. Dodge is chairman, has prepared and sent out through the press the following appeal in reference to the defeat of the Anglo-American arbitration treaty in the Senate :

"The rejection by our national Senate of the treaty initiated in accordance with the joint resolution of Congress, passed in 1890, and concluded by the representatives of the United States and Great Britain, Jan. 11, 1897, we believe to have been against the highest interests not only of the two nations concerned, but also of the world. Nor can we doubt that the rejection was against the prevailing national conviction. By every available mode of expression, the people, without distinction of party or locality, manifested their desire for the ratification of the treaty. Seldom has a national measure received a popular support so cordial.

We believe that the national conviction remains essentially unchanged. It appears that the vast majority of our citizens are still in favor of an equitable system of arbitration between the two countries. They still think, with President McKinley, in the words of his inaugural address, that the treaty deserved approval, "not merely as a matter of policy, but as a duty of mankind;" and that "the importance and moral influence of the ratification of such a treaty can hardly be overestimated in the cause of advancing civilization"; and, with Mr. Cleveland, that the treaty had in it "the promise of transcendent good."

To our fellow-citizens, accordingly, we make renewed and confident appeal. The wise advocacy of the great cause should be everywhere maintained. The effort should still be not only for arbitration as fit occasion may arise, but also for a proper and permanent system of arbitration between this country and Great Britain. Such a result would be the most influential step toward the adoption of arbitration by all civilized nations. It remains, therefore, for patriotic citizens unitedly to labor until, with the sanction of our national Senate, the intelligent will of the people shall be embodied in a just and comprehensive treaty for the accomplishment of that end."

On the 12th of April the Geographical Society of Lisbon created a General Peace and Arbitration Commission. The Commission has addressed a letter of salutation to all the peace societies and expressed its wish to enter into affiliation with them. We extend to the new organization our most cordial greetings and good wishes, and hope that it may have a long and useful career in promoting the principles of good-will and peace among the Portuguese people. The Commission extends a most cordial invitation to the Universal Peace Congress and the Interparliamentary Peace Union to hold their Ninth Annual Meetings at Lisbon, in 1898, during the time of the fêtes to be held in honor of the memory of Vasco de Gama, the explorer.

Hostilities between the Greek and Turkish armies have ceased. After severe fighting in Epirus, and at Velesino and Pharsalos the Greeks were compelled to abandon

their positions. Finally seeing the hopelessness of the struggle the Greek government asked the Powers to mediate. This they undertook to do, but found Turkey unwilling to yield except upon what they considered excessive conditions. A gentle letter from the Czar of Russia to the Sultan brought about an armistice of seventeen days, which it is said will be renewed while conditions of peace are being arranged. The scheme of the Powers is not to allow Turkey to retain Thessaly but only to have a slight strategic rectification of the frontier and a reasonable indemnity, the Powers to control the Greek finances until the indemnity is paid. There is great opposition on the part of Turkey to the giving up of Thessaly, and the Sultan is represented to be in straits on account of the pressure brought upon him by those favoring a refusal of the demands of the Powers. The attitude of Turkey is looked upon as threatening grave results. Greece has entered with the Powers a protest against the indemnity demanded by Turkey, and also against any rectification of the frontier.

The peace movement in Europe has suffered a severe loss by the death of Dr. Franz Wirth at Frankfort, on the 15th of May. Dr. Wirth was one of the earliest of the Germans to give in his adherence to the cause. He was president, up to the time of his death, of the Frankfort Peace Society, the oldest, we believe, of the German peace societies. He had often in recent years made extended lecturing tours through the German cities, one of these during the past winter. A number of Societies were established through his efforts. Dr. Wirth was also a member of the Commission of the International Peace Bureau at Berne. We are sorry to have to record his loss at this time, so useful was he in promoting the great cause for which with us he labored. But he has created a large number of friends for the movement, who will see that it does not languish.

The Naval Committee of the French Chamber of Deputies has endorsed the big naval scheme proposed in December last calling for the expenditure on the French navy of twenty millions of dollars over and above the regular naval expenses.

The Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs has decided to report favorably the Alaska boundary treaty, with an amendment that provides that the acceptance of Mt. St. Elias as the initial point of the meridian boundary shall not operate as a concession of any claims of the United States on the sea-coast line between the two countries.

Secretary Long has been authorized to use any available ship of the United States to convey to the sufferers from the famine in India the shipload of grain and provisions collected in New York.